

ST. LAWRENCE JIG

Source: Ralph Page, Keene, New Hampshire. Although the contra dance as we know it to-day is considered a New England dance form, the British settlers also brought with them from England, Scotland and Ireland the longways dance. The contra dance has had some influence from the French-Canadians who have gone to New Hampshire and Maine to work in the lumber mills. Perhaps this is how the contra dance of New England has arrived in Eastern Ontario around the Cornwall area. Here too, is felt the influence of the French-Canadians who work in the lumber and textile mills.

Music: St. Lawrence Jig

Record: Ontario Dances! Dancecraft LP 123322 Side 1, Band

Basic Steps: Walking, buzz step swing

Formation: Contra dance formation, couples 1,3,5, etc are active and cross over to the opposite side of the dance before the dance begins.

<u>Measures</u>	<u>Counts</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
1 - 4	1 - 8	Allemande Left the one below. Active couples do an allemand left with the person below them.
5 - 8	9 - 16	Meet in the middle of the set and swing. At the end of the swing, the woman is on the man's R side and they face down the centre of the set.
9 - 12	17 - 24	Down the centre four in line. Active couple give outside hand to inactive couple and all four walk down the centre of the set. On counts 7 and 8, drop hands and turn in place to face up the set. Rejoin hands.
13 - 16	25 - 32	The same way home. The four dancers return to place. On counts 7 and 8 the active couple drop each other's hand and cast out with the inactive couple. The progression of the dance has now been made and the active couple have moved down the set one position.
1 - 8	1 - 16	Right and Left four with the opposite couple.
9 - 12	17 - 24	Join hands on the sides. All go forward 4 steps and backward 4 steps.
13 - 16	25 - 32	Make a Right hand star with the opposite couple and walk once around to place.

Repeat dance from the beginning with a new couple.
The couples that has moved into the top position of the set now wait out one sequence of the dance, as do any couple at the bottom that have no couple to dance with them. On the second repeat, this couple now join the dance, having crossed over to partner's place.